

MEDIA RELEASE

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Applications invited for Round 3 of environmental grants

East Gippsland Water is now inviting applications for Round 3 of its Native Vegetation and Habitat Creation Grants program, which is open to educational and not-for-profit community groups across the region.

Grants are available for new and existing projects that focus on native vegetation planting or habitat creation. More information, including the eligibility criteria and an application pack, is available from the website www.egwater.vic.gov.au/grants, or by contacting East Gippsland Water's Community Engagement Team on 1800 671 841.

Carol Ross, East Gippsland Water's Executive Manager Customers, said, "We're delighted to be able to offer these grants, which form part of our ongoing commitment to enhance the liveability and bolster the resilience of our vibrant region.

"We received a very strong field of applications across the first two rounds of the program, with over \$70,000 funding distributed between projects in Lakes Entrance, Paynesville, Bairnsdale, Buchan, Swifts Creek, Toorloo Arm and Raymond Island for this financial year alone. Some also stand to benefit from multiple years of funding.



Proudly showing off their new garden are Toorloo's Principal Kerry Hughes, with students Hunter Douglass and Alexis Smart

"Toorloo Arm Primary School put their grant towards a fantastic new Centenary Garden. This includes an interactive play space for students and a commemoration for the school's centenary remembrance of WW1 and the ANZAC Spirit, with friendship seats and centenary pavers.

"Round 3 of the program provides another great opportunity for educational and community groups seeking funding for an eligible project. So don't waste time, get a grant application in!"

Applications need to be submitted by **4pm, on Friday 12 Jul, 2019**, with the successful grant recipients to be announced on East Gippsland Water's In the Flow Page in the East Gippsland News on 21 August, as well as on the organisation's website.

Ends.